

**17. DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM**

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**PURPOSE:** To improve the security of a user qualification checking system using passwords by discriminating the coincidence/discordance between a password supplied from the outside and the password held inside and updating the password held inside in accordance with a prescribed rule when a discriminated result indicates the coincidence.

**CONSTITUTION:** When the ID code and password of a user are inputted to terminal equipment, a host computer 1 first reads out the already registered password, etc., corresponding to the ID code from an auxiliary storage device 7. The read out password held inside is compared with the password inputted from the outside for coincidence/discordance and, when the passwords coincide with each other, a character code necessary for updating the password held inside utilized for the discrimination is fetched in accordance with a prescribed rule. Then the said password is updated by substituting the character code for a prescribed position of the password decided by a prescribed rule and the updated password is preserved in the auxiliary storage device 7 by registration through a memory 3. Therefore, the security of the system which checks the qualification of a user by using passwords can be improved.

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